

Message Text

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41

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 SP-02 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05

CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 FRB-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-15 XMB-04 OPIC-06

LAB-04 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 L-03 PA-02 PRS-01

ARA-10 EA-10 NEA-10 AGR-10 /160 W

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R 301622Z OAST75

FM AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3862

INFO WEMBASSY ABIDJAN 761

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LTZE

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS NOUAKCHOTT 1065

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECIN, MR

SUBJECT: MAURITANIAN PRESIDENT COMMENTS ON ECONOMIC COMMUNITY
OF WEST AFRICAN STATES (ECOWAS)

REF: LAGOS 5001

1. PRESIDENT OULD DADDAH RETURNED MAY 29 TO NOUAKCHOTT FROM
ECOWAS MEETING IN LAGOS. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS FROM
NEWSMEN UPON ARRIVAL AT AIRPORT, HE SAID ORGANIZATION SHOULD
BE ABLE TO GET UNDERWAY SOON.

2. WHEN ASKED ABOUT FUSION OF ECOWAS AND COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE
DE L'AFRIQUE DE L'OUEST (CEAO), OULD DADDAH SAID TMJ PROBLEM
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HAS NOT YET BEEN POSED. HE EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE OF ECOWAS WHICH, ON ONE HAND, "IS MOST IMPORTANT SUB-REGIONAL ORGANIZATION ON OUR CONTINENT," AND ON OTHER HAND, IS FIRST ORGANIZATION INHUR PART H WEST AFRICA WHICH TRANSCENDS BARRIERS LEFT BY COLONIALISM, NOTABLY OF LINQUISTIC AND ECONOMIC NATURE. OULD DADDAH SJSD THAT ECOWAS RECOGNIZES SUB-REGIONAL GROUPS WHICH ALREADY EXIST IN WEST AFRICA. HE POINTED OUT THAT MAURITANIA BELONGS TO A NUMBER OF THEFE GROUPS SUCH AS CEAO, SENEGAL RIVER DEVELOPMENT PROJECT, AND MAGHREB ECONOMIC COMMUNITY.

3. COMMET: ABOVE STATEMENT IS FIRST OCCASION OF WHICH WE ARE AWARE WHEN GIRM HAS INDICATED PUBLICLY THAT ECOWAS IS MORE IMPORTANT ORGANIZATION THAN CEAO. HATYSIDE

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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